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495—26.2(17A,97B) Definitions. Except where otherwise specifically defined by law:

"Appeal" means a dispute, other than a disability claim under Iowa Code section 97B.52A, of an agency decision or action. An appeal shall be conducted as a contested case if IPERS has issued its final agency decision and if the aggrieved party wishes to continue in the appeal process.

"Contested case" means a proceeding defined by Iowa Code section 17A.2(5) and includes any matter defined as a no factual dispute contested case under Iowa Code section 17A.10A.

"Issuance" means the date of mailing of a decision or order or date of delivery if service is by other means unless another date is specified in the order.

"Party" means each person or agency named or admitted as a party or properly seeking and entitled as of right to be admitted as a party.

"Presiding officer" means an administrative law judge provided by the department of inspections and appeals.